

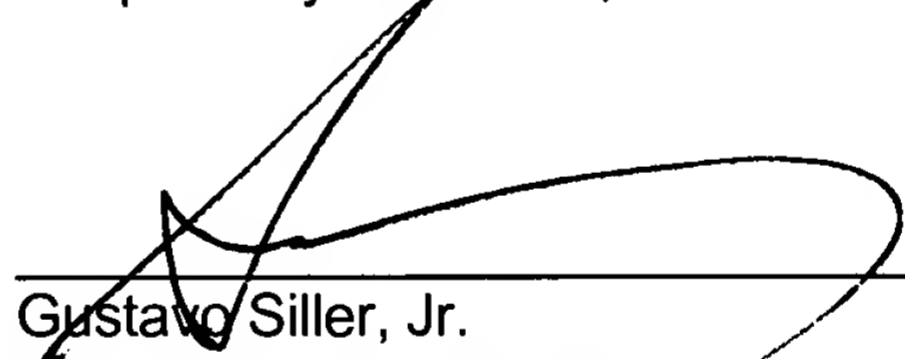
Rejection of Claims

In the Office Action dated July 3, 2001, the Examiner rejected Claims 7 and 13-17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that Applicants regard as the invention. More specifically, the Examiner objected to the term "such as" in Claim 7 as rendering the claim indefinite and Claims 13 and 16 as lacking antecedent basis for "the ABS side." Applicants have amended Claims 7 and 13 to remove the term "such as" and recite "an air-bearing-surface (ABS)," respectively, and submit that amended Claims 7 and 13 and dependent Claims 14-17 overcome the rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and arguments above, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance and seek an early allowance thereof. If for any reason the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,



Gustavo Siller, Jr.
Registration No. 32,305
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200